

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the Abstract as originally filed with the following amended Abstract:

A battery pack containing a plurality of battery modules, ~~said these~~ modules comprising a plurality of individual battery units, ~~said these~~ battery units comprising a plurality of bicells with opposing terminals. The battery modules are connected in series by use of a flexible circuit and by opposing positive and negative terminals of each battery unit. The terminals of each battery unit contain a region of apertures which allow the adhesive of the packaging material to seal more effectively, thereby eliminating or reducing the amount of leakage from an individual battery unit.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 235 of page 11 in the Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiment as originally filed [“In another aspect of the invention . . . exposed grids 90 of the plurality of bicells 78.”] with the following amended paragraph:

In another aspect of the invention, Figure 5 shows terminal 24 in greater detail. Terminal 24 comprises an electrically conductive tab and may be formed of copper or aluminum material. Terminal 24 allows individual battery unit 20 to be electrically connected to another individual battery unit 20, the flexible connection 14, or another electrical connection. The terminal 24 has a first region 96, a second region ~~[[98]]~~98_a having apertures 99_a, a third region 100, a fourth region 102, a first locating hole 104 and a second locating hole 106. In the illustrated embodiment, terminal 24 has a tang 26 protruding from one edge of third region 100 along a lengthwise axis 101. The first region 96 may be welded to the exposed grids 90 of the plurality of bicells 78.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 280 of page 12 in the Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiment as originally filed [“Figure 8 is a section view taken . . . hot melt adhesive of the packaging 80 to seal with itself.”] with the following amended paragraph:

Figure 8 is a section view taken substantially along lines 8-8 in Figure 6 and shows a first side 120 and a second side 122 of terminal 24 in second region ~~[[98]]~~98_b. This better illustrates how the apertures ~~[[98_a]]~~99_b allow the hot melt adhesive of the packaging 80 to seal with itself.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 164 of page 8 in the Detailed Description of a Preferred Embodiment as originally filed [“As described in the Background, a problem with . . . minimize damage to the relatively fragile grid portion during welding.”] with the following amended paragraph.

As described in the Background, a problem with conventional arrangements (*i.e.*, terminals on the “same side” of a battery unit), is that it becomes more difficult to connect multiple battery units in a compact, series-connected arrangement. According to the invention, each individual battery unit 20 has a positive terminal 22 located at a first end 84 of the battery unit 20 and a negative terminal 24 located at a second end 86. The second end 86 is located on an opposing side of battery unit 20 from first end 84, relative to a horizontal axis 82. In the illustrated embodiment, negative terminal 24 is ultrasonically welded to the remaining exposed top surface of anodic grids 90. In the illustrated embodiment, the positive terminal 22 is ultrasonically welded to the remaining exposed bottom surface of cathodic grids 88. The cover strip 85 is made of the same material as the corresponding terminal (positive or negative) 22, 24 and grid (positive or negative) 88, 90 and is placed above the grids 88, 90 or below the grids 88, 90, depending upon whether the terminal 22, 24 is either welded on the top of the stack of grids 88, 90 or below the stack of grids 88, 90. That is, the cover strip is placed on the opposing side relative to the terminal. That way, an electrosonic welding ~~horn-horn~~ has opposing, reaction surfaces to grip. The strips minimize damage to the relatively fragile grid portion during welding.